

Ellanor C. Lawrence Park
Teacher's Outline
Program: Pond Life Cycles
Grade: 2

Program Objectives:

- To explore the habitat of a pond by looking at some biological and physical aspects of a pond
- To understand how people's actions can affect water quality and aquatic life.

Program Length

1.5 hours

Program Location:

Walney Pond

Program content

- Welcome and Introduction to Ellanor C. Lawrence Park.
- A walk around the pond to look at aquatic plants, animals, and animals that use the water.
- Discussion: What is a pond? What kinds of animals can be found there?
- Demonstration of pond collection techniques. Explanation of how to handle equipment and critters.
- Collecting of aquatic insects and other pond dwellers
- Observation, identification, and discussion of collected water life. Release.
- Discuss interdependency in the pond.
- Discuss human impacts on aquatic life. Humans can harm the environment, can we help it?

This program addresses the following SOL's:

2.4: "The student will investigate and understand that plants and animals go through a series of orderly changes in their life cycles. Key concepts include:

Some animals (frogs and butterflies) go through distinct changes in their lives while others generally resemble their parents

2.5: The student will investigate and understand that living things are part of a system, Key concepts include:

Living organisms are interdependent with their living and nonliving surroundings; and Habitats change over time due to many influences."

Terms to discuss before your visit

- *Pond: a body of relatively shallow, still water.*
- *Interdependence: the interrelationships of wildlife with one another and with the various elements of their environment*
- *Ecosystem: A natural unit that includes living and nonliving parts to produce a stable system ; all living things and their environment, all linked together by energy and nutrient flow.*